



International Regulators' Forum GLOBAL OFFSHORE SAFETY

Simon Brown, IRF Standards Sub-Group
BSEE Standards Workshop New Orleans 14–15 November 2012

IRF COUNTRY MEMBERS



CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA
OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

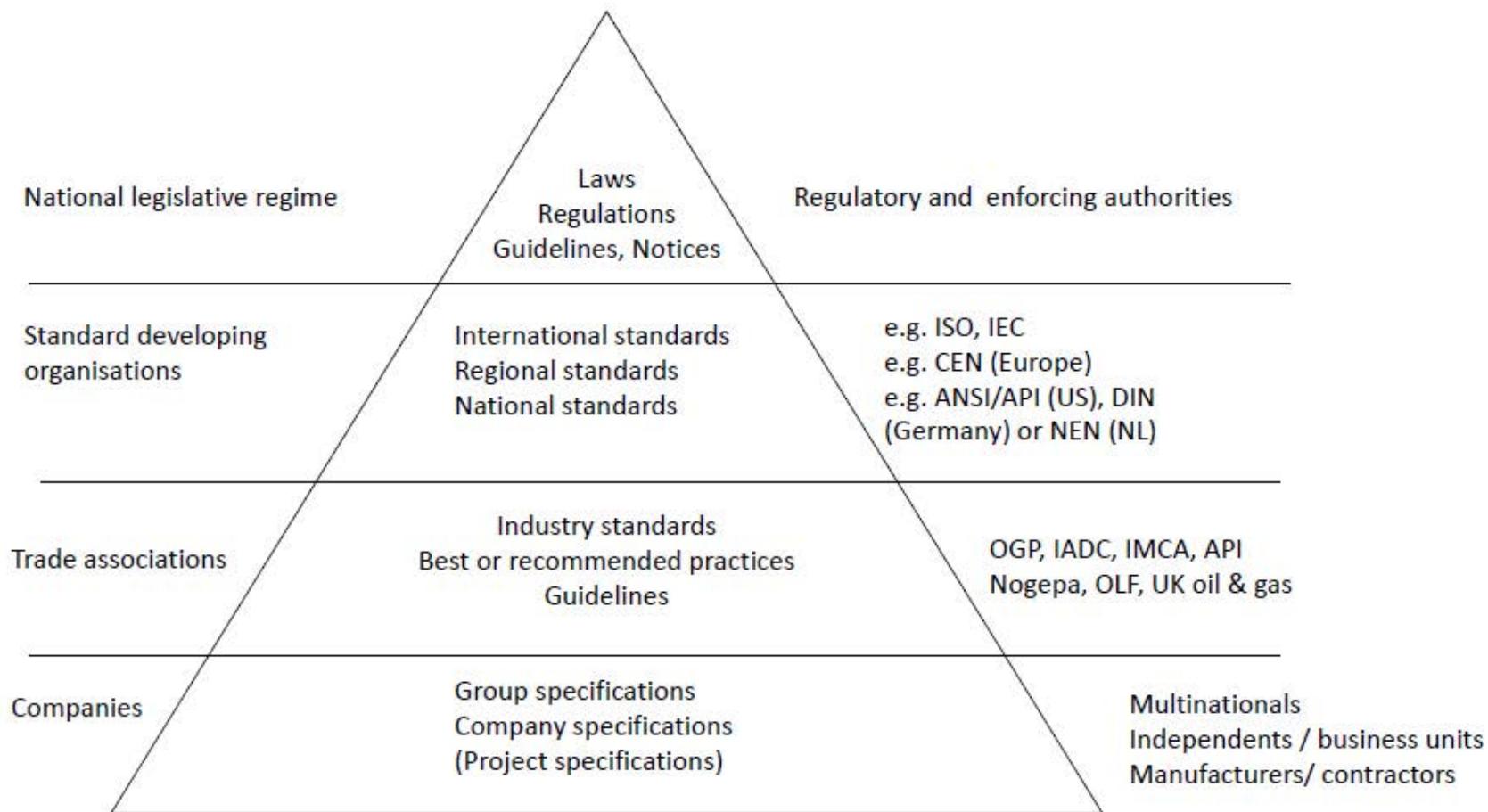


International Regulators' Forum

- Terms of reference
 - To promote best sustainable safety standards
 - To enable an exchange of information between regulators
 - To provide a network of health and safety regulators for mutual support and advice
- Ways of working
 - Annual plenary meeting
 - Communication between members
 - Programme working groups, e.g. Lifting, Performance Measures, Standards
 - Periodic conference
 - Website (www.irfshoresafety.com)

'The involvement of IRF in setting standards and best practices'

- Paper at IRF Summit Conference, Stavanger, 4/5 October 2011
- Impact of Montara and Macondo incidents
 - drive to improve consistency of safe practice worldwide, particularly in drilling community
- Proposes ways in which IRF can do more in relation to offshore oil and gas industry standards



International Regulators' Forum

Background

- API widely used
 - predominantly equipment specs. (manufacturer)
- Other regional/national bodies have global influence
 - e.g. CEN, NORSOK
- ISO provides international dimension
 - many ISO standards based on API
 - Sometimes regional Annexes required (country specific)
- IEC for electrical and instrumentation
 - ‘Ex’, machinery and process control systems
 - Safety systems
- IMO
 - Marine integrity e.g. MODU Code
- Move to management process standards
 - Competence, risk analysis, safety management systems etc.

How do Regulators Use Standards?

- National legislation differs across the globe in style and content
 - Different cultures, legal systems
 - Strong prescription, to goal setting and hybrid
- Enforcement has a broad spectrum
- All Regulators uses Standards in some way to support legal requirements
 - Sometimes an informal relationship
 - Sometimes formal status e.g. in support of EC product safety Directives or incorporated by reference into regulations
- Regulator decides if a standard meets regulatory intent within their own jurisdiction
 - unless defined by a formal process e.g. harmonised standards under EC product Directives (e.g. ATEX, Machinery, Pressure Equipment)

OGP Survey

- Regulators refer to 1,140 different standards
 - 989 (87%) referenced by one regulator only
 - Industry standards – 44%
 - National standards – 35%
 - International standards – 21%
 - API dominated (225 references)
 - ISO – 152 standards (59 from ISO/TC67)
 - 40% US, 24% EU, 21% International
 - Most references to undated revisions
- Ref: OGP Regulators use of standards, OGP Report No. 426, March 2010

How can/do/should regulators contribute?

- Encourage the understanding & application of standards
- Participate in the development of selected standards
- Encourage continuous improvement
 - helping 'best practice' to become 'good practice'
 - learning from incidents
- Feedback problems in the application of standards from a regulatory viewpoint
- Identify gaps where standards needed
- Principal resources (subject matter experts, funding) should be from industry

IRF Standards Sub-Group

Terms of Reference

- To set clear priorities for ISO/IEC standards work to cater for IRF members' needs
- To engage with the OGP Standards Committee to present IRF views and seek jointly agreeable solutions
- To engage with ISO/TC67 Management Committee and other relevant IEC and ISO committees to present IRF needs and views on international standards
- To monitor, and participate when needed, in the development of relevant ISO/IEC standards to ensure regulatory concerns are identified at an early stage
- To inform IRF members of progress and advise on current issues and relevant developments.

IRF Standards Sub-Group

Current Composition

- Chair – Simon Brown (HSE/OSD, UK)
- Jean-Pierre Posselt (DEA, Denmark)
- Jos Marx (SSM, NL)
- Joe Levine (BSEE, USA)
- Russell Hoshmann (BSEE, USA)
- Gerry Sheehan (CNSOP, Canada/Nova Scotia)
- (IRF Standards Champions - Steve Walker (UK), Jan de Jong (NL))

Thank You!

Any Questions?

simon.brown@hse.gsi.gov.uk